

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the final Office Action dated April 21, 2005 (Paper No. 20050415). The present Amendment amends claim 1 to clarify a portion of the scope sought to be patented. Claim 3 has been cancelled. Support for these amendments can be found variously throughout the specification, including, for example, original claim 3 and Figure 4. No new matter has been added.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 since the amendment: (a) places the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration; and (c) places the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendment is necessary and was not earlier presented because it is made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The Applicant thanks the examiner for recognizing claims 2, 5, 6/2, 6/5, 7/2, 7/5, 8/7/2 and 8/7/5 as containing allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Action, claims 1 and 6/1 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,435,629 to Egle et al. ("Egle"). This rejection is rendered moot by the present Amendment, wherein the subject matter of claim 3 has been incorporated into independent claim 1.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6/1, 6/3 and 6/4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,371,362 to Dorris ("Dorris"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 of the present application recites, *inter alia*, a roller for a crawler type traveling vehicle wherein the roller pieces are press-fit connected and held together by frictional contact to a ring member having a required width extending over the parting section and at least a portion of each stepped engagement part.

Although Dorris arguably discloses rim segments 30 retained against a hub 18 via arcuate retainer segments 40, Dorris fails to disclose, teach or suggest *at least* roller pieces press-fit connected and held together by frictional contact to a ring member having a required width extending over the parting section and at least a portion of each stepped engagement part, as is recited in claim 1 of the present invention. Although Dorris arguably discloses rim segments 30 retained by fastener segments 40 through the use of fasteners/bolts 42, no disclosure, teaching or suggestion is contained within Dorris of press-fitting roller pieces to a **ring member** having a required width **extending over a parting section and at least a portion of each stepped engagement part**. In fact, Dorris fails to disclose, teach or suggest of forming any member so as to extend over the parting section and at least a portion of each rim segment 30.

Accordingly, since Dorris clearly fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention, a *prima facie* anticipation rejection has not been established, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Moreover, aside from the novel limitations recited therein, claims 3, 4, 6/1, 6/3 and 6/4, being dependent either directly or indirectly upon allowable base claim 1, are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is therefore courteously solicited.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6/1, 6/3, 6/4, 7/1, 7/3, 7/4, 7/6/3/1, 7/6/3/1, 7/6/4/1 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0153773 to Yoon ("Yoon"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Although Yoon arguably discloses welding a left side 500a of a roller body 500 with a right side 500b of the roller body 500, similarly to Dorris, Yoon clearly fails to disclose, teach or suggest *at least* roller pieces press-fit connected and held together by frictional contact to **a ring member** having a required width **extending over the parting section and at least a portion of each stepped engagement part**, as is recited in claim 1 of the present invention. In fact, Yoon fails to disclose, teach or suggest of forming any member so as to extend over the parting section and at least a portion of each roller body side 500a, 500b.

Accordingly, since Yoon clearly fails to disclose, teach or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention, a *prima facie* anticipation rejection has not been established, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Moreover, aside from the novel limitations recited therein, claims 3, 4, 6/1, 6/3, 6/4, 7/1, 7/3, 7/4, 7/6/3/1, 7/6/3/1, 7/6/4/1 and 8, being dependent either directly or indirectly upon allowable base claim 1, are also allowable for at least the reasons set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is therefore courteously solicited.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If the examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. KOM-157/INO, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: July 6, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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